

REMARKS

The foregoing Amendment and remarks which follow are responsive to the Restriction Requirement mailed December 13, 2005 in relation to the above-identified patent application. In that Restriction Requirement, the Examiner requested restriction under 35 U.S.C §121 to one of five purportedly patentably distinct species of the present invention.

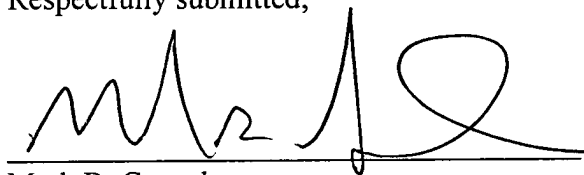
Responsive to this Restriction Requirement, Applicant hereby provisionally elects, without traverse, Species I corresponding to original Claims 1-6 for initial prosecution on the merits. Consistent with this election, by this Amendment, Applicant has canceled Claims 12, 27 and 28, and has amended Claims 7, 8 and 11 in a manner believed to put the same within the scope of the present election. Additionally, Applicant has amended and withdrawn Claims 14, 21, 22 and 25, and has withdrawn Claims 15-20, 23 and 26. Applicant will seek rejoinder of these withdrawn claims upon any indication of the allowance of the underlying base claim. Finally, Applicant has added new Claims 29-31 into prosecution, each of which is believed to be within the scope of the present election.

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account Number 19-4330.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/3/06

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